(c) the steps taken to prevent mismanagement of DRDA fund in the State?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (c) The information from the concerned State Government is being collected. Appropriate action will be taken on receipt of the same.

Construction of Badiyara-Nandala Road, Shimla under PMGSY

†1790. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh has given approval to the Badiyara-Nandala Road, which falls under Shimla district under the Prime Minister Gramin Sadak Yojana during the financial year 2001-2002; and

(b) if so, the amount approved in this regard and by when the said work is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 87.25 lakh have been provided for the scheme and work is expected to commence shortly upon completion of requisite formalities.

National Summit on Public-Private Partnership for Rural Development

1791. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Summit on Public-Private Partnership for Rural Prosperity and Development was held in New Delhi on 16th October, 2001 which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister and addressed by Union Minister of Rural Development;

(b) if so, what were the details of discussion held/outcome of "Summit" particularly towards building rural infrastructure, connectivity programme which is the key to rural marketing as well as the innovative rural financing and insurance; and

(c) what amount has been sanctioned till date for the above schemes, item-wise, State-wise during 2001-2002 to ensure that rural India may not be by-passed?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) to (c) A National Summit on Public-Private Partnership for Rural Prosperity was held in New Delhi on 16th October, 2001 and was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister who called upon Government and industry together to make Rural Prosperity the 'mantra' of the decade. The Summit was attended by industrialists and corporate representatives who expressed keen interest in establishing a meaningful partnership to accelerate the process of development of the rural areas. The Presentations made, *inter alia*, covered themes like the development of rural infrastructure.

Substantial allcoations have been made, over the years, for various Rural Development Schemes and Programmes, including Rs. 2500 crore for the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana for the year 2001-2002. The Central share of funds for such Programmes is made available to the States and Union Territories for speedy implementation of the same, in accordance with prescribed criteria. Central releases are, accordingly, in hand in the current year.

Steps taken to identify people Below Poverty Line

1792. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM:
DR. KARAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken in each State and Union Territory to identify the people Below Poverty Line;

(b) the number of people found living Below Poverty Line in each State and U.T.; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that the benefits of the schemes aimed at helping the BPL people, including providing of employment opportunities reach them?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development conducts a Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census in the beginning of each Five Year Plan, through the States/ UTs, to identify people living Below Poverty Line.

(b) State-wise and Union Territory-wise number of people found living Below Poverty Line in rural areas, as per the BPL Census, 1997, which have been reported to the Ministry of Rural Development, are given in the Statement. (*See* below).